

REMARKS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed on March 16, 2009. At the time the Examiner proposed the amendments, claims 1-14 were pending. By way of the present response applicants have: 1) amended claims 1-14; 2) added no new claims; and 3) canceled no claims. No new matter has been added. As such, claims 1-14 are now pending. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner stated that the antecedent basis for “variator ratio” is not clear. Applicants have amended independent claim 1 accordingly, and therefore, respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome. Applicants reserve all rights under the doctrine of equivalents.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), applicant hereby requests and authorizes the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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